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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1624

Examiner: McKenzie, T.

Applicants:

Erion et al.

Serial No.:

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Title: NOVEL PHOSPHORUS-CONTAINING

PRODRUGS

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

The Applicants wish to thank Examiners McKenzie and Shah for their courtesy in the interview conducted on September 10, 2003. The amendment and remarks address the issues raised by the Examiner in an Office Action dated June 16, 2003.

Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a). With the granting of said extension, it is believed that this response is timely filed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$475.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-2613 for the three-month extension fee due herein and any other fees that may become due or credit become payable during the pendency of this application.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. §1.8)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with anything referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

> Kimila Carraway Name of Person Transmitting Page

December 16, 2003

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